



**NEWS
RELEASE**

United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Salmon - Challis National Forest
1206 South Challis St.
Salmon, Idaho 83467

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Goat Fire Update August 09, 2014

DATE OF DETECTION: August 01, 2014

CAUSE: Lightning

LOCATION: – The fire is burning in Goat Creek approximately two (2) miles from the mouth of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, North Fork Ranger District; Salmon-Challis National Forest

Fire growth over the last two days has been minimal, growing approximately 64 acres. The total acreage is now approximately 430 acres.

Weather conditions have been somewhat favorable in limiting fire growth. Though limited precipitation has occurred over the fire area, cloud cover and higher humidity has helped to moderate fire behavior and growth.

The Goat Fire is being managed under a monitor and point protection strategy. The fire is currently burning in stringers of alpine fir amongst rock outcroppings and cliff lines. Providing for firefighter and public safety is of the highest priority of the Goat Creek Fire Managers. Due to the extremely steep, rugged, and inaccessible terrain and fire location, currently it isn't safe to staff the fire with firefighters.

Forest personnel have developed a long term plan for this fire with a focus on firefighter and public safety as well as reducing the fire's impacts to the Middle Fork and Main Salmon Corridors. Planned actions include prepping campsites along the Middle Fork of the Salmon River in the event the fire does reach this area. A Lookout has been established on the West side of the Middle Fork and assessments are taking place along Panther Creek and along the Main Salmon River from Panther Creek to the confluence of the Middle Fork and Main Salmon River.

Smoke and fire may be visible from the lower end of the Middle Fork and along the Main Salmon River. Salmon-Challis National Forest Fire Managers expect the fire to continue to burn throughout the summer or until a significant weather event occurs.

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Currently, there is one trail closure in place. The Horse Heaven wilderness trail, (Forest Trail #6172) beginning at the junction with Forest Trail #6021, near Dome Mountain and heading northwest to the end of this trail in near the Horse Heaven VABM (#8086) and continuing on the undesignated trail north to the Salmon River.

Fire managers will continue to evaluate closure needs based upon fire activity. Visitors should use caution if traveling near the Goat creek and Horse Haven areas. For further information on the Goat Fire and Trail Closures, please visit <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4056/>.

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